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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Attorney Docket No. 68142-015

APPLICANT: Decaux  
ART UNIT: 1723  
EXAMINER: Savage  
SERIAL No.: 09/937,583  
FILED: 1-18-02  
FOR: FUEL FILTER

**REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

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**REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 5, 2003, Applicant requests that the above-identified patent application be amended as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Twice Amended) A fuel filter comprising a filter body having opposing filter body ends, the filter body defining an internal chamber within which a filter medium is to be located, the filter medium including an outer periphery and a filter member having a first end secured to a support plate, and a second end secured to the filter body, wherein the support plate has an outer periphery which engages the inner surface of the filter body, said first and second ends being secured such that fuel can only flow from the outer periphery of the filter medium to an inner part of the filter medium by flowing through the filter medium, the filter body being of multi-part construction, the parts of the filter body being non-removably, sealingly secured to one another such that the parts of the filter body form an integral whole, the filter body being shaped to define an inlet port and an outlet port communicating with dirty and clean sides of the filter medium, respectively both the inlet and outlet ports being positioned at the same body end of the filter body.